

REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health,



FOR THE

✧ BOLSOVER URBAN DISTRICT, ✧

— FOR THE YEAR 1905. —



PRINTED BY GEO. KENT, BOLSOVER and SHIREBROOK.

The Report of the Medical Officer of Health of the Bolsover Urban District for the Year 1905.

To the Bolsover Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in handing you my Report for the Year 1905.

General Remarks.

The past year compares favourably with 1904.

The weather has been mild, and the rainfall considerable.

Please note that all calculations in the tables at the end of my report are based on the census of 1901. (Population 6844, Inhabited houses 1272.)

The population now must be 10,000 and the number of inhabited houses 2000.

You will also please note that there is another table added (Table V), relating to infantile mortality with the causes and age up to 1 year of age.

Mortality.

During 1905 123 deaths were registered as actually occurring within the district, and 6 of residents who died in Public Institutions outside the district, making a total of 129 the rate being 18·84 per 1000 per annum of the estimated population 6844.

In 1904 there were 132 deaths the rate being 20·30.

Excluding the six deaths belonging to the district which occurred outside, the rate would be 17·79.

This is satisfactory as the population will have increased somewhat during the past twelve months. I would direct your attention to Table I.

Infantile Mortality.

A glance at Table V will shew you the ages and causes of death in infants during the first four weeks of life, also from the 2nd month up to 12 months.

This Table has been added by the Local Government Board since 1904, and though difficult in compilation is most interesting.

The total deaths under 1 year number 49 whereas in 1904 we had 68 deaths under 1 year.

The Infantile death rate for 1904 was 158.5 and for 1905, 119.8, the calculation in each case being per 1,000 births registered.

This considerable decrease in the Infantile death rate is most satisfactory, but much remains to be done yet as regards teaching mothers how to feed their babes, with proper food, clothe them sufficiently, and give them a plentiful supply of fresh air.

A stuffy kitchen with a large blazing fire and the air thoroughly vitiated, is deemed by some young ignorant mothers, the proper abode of a baby during the first few months of its life.

The use of "dummy teats" or soothers and feeding bottles with long tubes is a practice to be strongly condemned, the former using up the baby's saliva which is necessary for digestion, and in the latter, it is quite impossible to keep the long tube clean.

Causes at all ages.

A glance at Table IV. will shew you the causes of death at all ages.

Seven deaths are attributed to Phthisis and other Tubercular diseases accounted for six deaths, five of the latter being under 1 year of age.

There were six deaths from Phthisis in 1904.

Summer Diarrhœa.

There was not a very long period of dry, warm weather during the summer months, rain falling at frequent intervals, and this probably accounts for the few cases of this dread disease. Those that did occur were not of a very severe type. Five deaths in children under 1 year old were attributed to this complaint.

Almost all the cases occurred in bottle-fed infants, and if mothers would only keep the feeding bottles (without long tubes), scrupulously clean, and see that only fresh milk was used, we

should not have so many cases of this complaint.

Milk is most easily contaminated by being kept in a dirty vessel or ill ventilated and dirty pantry, and also forms a most suitable and fertile breeding ground for bacteria.

Births.

The number of births registered during 1905 was 409, (220 boys 207 girls,) the rate being 59·76. This is a decrease of 20 on the figures for 1904, the figures for that year being 429 and the rate 62·68.

Infectious Disease.

A glance at Table III. will give you the number, variety, and ages of those attacked by disease of an infectious nature.

Scarlatina.

This disease was prevalent during the first five months of the past year, 55 cases being notified to me.

They were nearly all of a very mild type, and only two deaths were due to the complaint one patient being under 5 years old and the other between the ages of 5 and 15 years.

These cases really were a continuation of the epidemic which visited the district in the latter months of 1904.

Erysipelas.

Forty nine cases of this disease were notified during 1905. This is a very large number and an increase of 23 over last year's number 26.

No deaths were attributed to this complaint, and I have no doubt that Bolsover will easily capture the doubtful distinction of heading the list for this complaint for the whole county when Dr. Barwise's report is available.

Smallpox.

I am pleased to say no cases of this foul disease occurred in the District in 1905.

Enteric Fever.

Thirteen cases were reported, but only one death was attributed to this disease, the patient who lived at Whaley Thorns being over 65 years old.

Insanitary defects were found in all the cases. These were remedied, but so long as well water is used (the aforesaid well being generally surrounded by privy middens, which are themselves insanitary), I am sure cases of this complaint will crop up in the district.

Now that a wholesome and adequate water supply is available I should very much like to see this water used in every house in this district, which is at present dependant on well water.

As the wells are only bricked inside, contamination of the water is bound to occur by surface water and percolation of filth from the adjoining privy middens.

Diphtheria.

Twenty cases were notified, but no deaths occurred. Since the introduction of the serum treatment for this disease the mortality has been reduced 50%.

Measles.

This disease is not notifiable in the district, but several cases occurred during the last three months of 1905. The cases were mostly of a mild nature and no deaths occurred.

Chicken pox and Mumps.

Only a few cases of Chicken pox occurred in 1905, and as far I know no cases of mumps were observed.

Lodging House.

The Lodging House is in a satisfactory condition, clean and well limewashed, and sufficient sanitary arrangements are provided by the proprietor Mr. Moss.

Factory and Workshop Act.

I would direct your attention to the table relating to the factories at the end of my report. The only factory of importance is the jam factory which is well managed, and fulfils the necessary sanitary requirements.

The dairies and cowsheds are fairly satisfactory.

The bakehouses are satisfactory.

The slaughterhouses are kept clean and properly drained, but their proximity to dwelling houses is dangerous and detrimental to health.

Housing of the Working classes Act.

Great good has been done during the year, but much still remains to be done in the poorer parts of the district.

Scavenging.

This work is not done to my satisfaction. The several Contractors work without any method, and frequently empty one ash-pit in a row of houses and leave the others half full, the result is they have to be told to visit this locality again and empty the other, thereby covering the same ground twice.

How much better it would be for each contractor to divide his district into localities and thoroughly scavenge one part at a time.

I am afraid this work will never be satisfactorily carried out until the Council take over this department and do the work themselves.

Improvements.

1. — The opening of the Mastin Moor Isolation Hospital.
2. — The provision of Diphtheria Antitoxin free.
3. — An efficient and wholesome water supply well established
4. — Sanitation of Shuttlewood & Whaley Thorns considerably improved.
5. — Defective street gullies removed and sealed ones substituted.

Requirements.

1.—The re-making and taking over of certain private streets in Carr Vale, under the Private Street Works Act 1890, or section 150 Public Health Act 1875, by which cost of re-making can be recovered from the owners. I suggested this to you last year but nothing has been done.

2.—The consideration of the amended byelaws drafted by the Surveyor.

I remain, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

WM. STRATTON.

TABLE 1.

Vital Statistics of District during 1905 and previous Years.

Name of District, BOLSOVER.

Year.	Population Estimated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the District				Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District.	Nett deaths at all ages belonging to the District.	
		Number	Rate *	Number	Rate per 1000 Births Registered.	Number	Rate		Number.	Rate *
1895 ..	5500	277	50·36	42	151·63	63	17·27			
1896 ...	5500	258	46·9	31	120·15	100	18·18			
1897 ...	5500	258	46·9	47	183·59	91	16·54			
1898 ...	5500	286	51·5	51	178·32	104	28·40			
1899 ...	5500	265	48·1	46	173·58	52	17·81			
1900 ...	5500	306	46·8	68	222·2	144	26·18			
1901 .	6844	282	41·2	46	163·1	89	13·004			
1902 ...	6844	356	52·01	46	129·21	113	16·51	4	117	17·09
1903 ...	6844	359	52·45	50	131·9	119	17·38	9	128	18·7
1904 ...	6844	429	62·68	68	158·5	132	19·28	7	139	20·3
Averages for Years 1895—1904.	6037	307	49·89	49	165·21	100	19·005			
1905 ...	6844	409	59·76	49	119·8	123	17·97	6	129	18·84

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 4797½.

Total population at all ages, 6844.

Number of inhabited houses, 1272.

Average number of persons per house, 5.

At Census 1901.

Institutions outside the District receiving sick and infirm persons from the District :—

Sheffield Royal Infirmary, Sheffield Royal Hospital, The Jessop Hospital, Sheffield, Chesterfield General Hospital, Chesterfield Union Hospital.

TABLE II.—Vital Statistics, in 1905, and previous years.
Name of District, BOLSOVER.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year	Births Registered.	Deaths at all ages.	Deaths under 1 year
1895 ...	5500	277	63	42
1896 ...	5500	258	100	31
1897 ...	5500	258	91	47
1898 ...	5500	286	104	51
1899 ..	5500	265	52	46
1900 ...	5500	306	144	68
1901 ..	6844	282	89	46
1902 ...	6844	356	117	46
1903 ...	6844	350	128	50
1904 ...	6844	429	139	68
Averages for Years 1895—1905.	—	—	—	—
	6037	307	102	49
1905 ...	6844	409	129	49

TABLE III.
Cases of Infectious disease notified during the Year 1905.
Name of District, BOLSOVER.

Notifiable Disease	Cases notified in whole District						
	At all ages	At ages—Years.					
		Under 1	1 to 15	5 to 15	15 to 25	25 to 65	65 and upwards
Diphtheria	20	1	1	10	4	4	
Erysipelas	49	1	3	2	4	31	8
Scarlet Fever... ..	55	1	15	36	2	1	
Enteric Fever... ..	13			6	2	4	1
Puerperal Fever ..	4				2	2	
Totals	141	3	19	54	14	42	9

TABLE IV.

Causes of, and ages at, Death during Year 1905.

Name of District, BOLSOVER.

Causes of Death	All ages.	Under 1 yr.	1 & under 5	5 & under 15	15 & under 25	25 & under 65	65 & upwards
Scarlet Fever... ..	2		1	1	..	..	..
Whooping-Cough ...	5	3	2	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever ...	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Diarrhœa	8	5	1	1	1	..	..
Puerperal Fever ...	3	..	..	..	1	2	..
Phthisis	7	..	..	..	2	5	..
Other tubercular diseases ...	6	5	1	..	..	..	..
Cancer, malignant disease ...	5	..	..	..	..	1	4
Bronchitis	8	1	3	..	..	1	3
Pneumonia	13	3	4	1	2	3	..
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ...	3	..	..	..	..	3	..
Alcoholism Cirrhosis of Liver	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Premature birth ...	9	9	..	..	..	..	..
Heart Diseases ...	8	..	..	..	..	5	3
Accidents	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
Intestinal obstruction	2	1	..	..	..	1	..
Inanition	9	9	..	..	..	..	..
Apoplexy	4	..	..	..	..	3	1
Convulsions	9	8	1	..	..	..	..
Congenital defects ...	2	2	..	..	..	..	..
Senility	5	..	..	..	..	..	5
All other causes ...	18	3	5	..	1	6	3
All causes	129	49	18	3	7	30	22

TABLE V.

Infantile Mortality during the Year 1905.

Deaths from stated causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

Causes of Death.		Under 1 wk.	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under 1 year
All Causes	Certified ...	18	0	1	2	21	2	3	3	3	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	46
	Uncertified ...		1	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	3
Whooping-cough ...		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	.	1	.	.	3
Diarrhœa, all forms ...		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	1	.	.	.	.	1	1	5
Premature Birth ...		9	.	.	.	9	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	9
Congenital defects ...		.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	2
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus ...		6	.	1	1	8	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	9
Tuberculous Peritonitis ...		.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	3
Other Tuberculous diseases ...		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	.	.	.	.	.	2
Convulsions ...		1	1	.	.	2	.	1	1	2	.	.	1	.	.	.	1	8
Bronchitis ...		.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1
Pneumonia ...		.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	.	.	.	1	.	.	1	.	3
Other Causes ...		2	.	.	1	3	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	4
		18	1	1	2	22	2	3	3	3	2	2	3	2	2	2	3	49

Births in the Year—legitimate 409, (boys 202, girls 207)
illegitimate, no record kept.

Deaths from all causes at all ages 129.

Population, estimated to middle of 1905, 10,000.

Number of inhabited houses, 2,000.

Factories, Workshops, Laundries, Workplaces, and Homework.

1.- Inspection.

Premises.	Number of	
	Inspections	Written Notices.
Factories	28	0
Workshops	89	7
Homeworkers Premises	9	0
	—	—
Total	126	7

2.—Defects Found.

Particulars.	Number of Defects	
	Found	Remedied
Want of cleanliness	4	4
Want of Ventilation	1	1
Overcrowding	7	7
Want of Drainage of Floors ..	2	2
Other Nuisances	13	13
Unsuitable San. accommodation	4	4

